Washington State Public Utility Tax Survey Fall 2001

Washington State Department of Health

Social and Economic Sciences Research Center

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SESRC Professional Staff

All of the work conducted at the Social & Economic Sciences Research Center is the result of a cooperative effort made by a team of dedicated research professionals. The research in this report could not have been conducted without the efforts of interviewers and part-time personnel not listed.

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INTRODUCTION

Background

Legislation was passed in 2001 that created a conservation tax incentive for public water utilities (ESHB 1832). As part of the bill the Office of Financial Management in consultation with the Department of Health and other agencies was required to evaluate the long-term revenue impacts and the costs and benefits of the deductions and exclusions authorized by ESHB 1832. As part of the assessment the Department of Health collaborated with the Social and Economic Sciences Center (SESRC) at Washington State University (WSU) to create and implement a survey of public water utilities. In October the survey titled " Washington State Public Utility Tax Survey Fall 2001" was mailed to public water utilities. The study was conducted between October 2001 and November 2001 and a 71% response rate was obtained from the 458 public water utilities that were mailed questionnaires. In this report we present the results of the survey.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

A majority of the respondents (81%) indicated that they did not participate in the tax incentive program.

A majority of the respondents (67%), who did not participate in the program, indicated that the main reason they did not file a claim was that they were not aware of the program.

Respondents felt that providing financial incentives to increase the use of providing assists with leak detection/repair, repair of water mains, and replacing lost revenue from conservation would be the most effective.

A large percentage of the respondents felt that providing financial assistance to increase the use of assisting with industrial customer process audits and assists with industrial customer water efficiency measures would not be effective. However, a large percentage of respondents were unsure if financial assistance would be effective in increasing the use of these measures.

Respondents indicated that interest free loans and direct payments were the most effective financial incentives.

Low interest loans were considered not effective financial incentives.

Respondents were not sure how effective expanding the existing program; tax exemptions and tax credits would be for their utility.

Only 22% of the respondents indicated that they would likely claim the tax incentive in 2002 and only 23% indicated they would claim the incentive in 2003.

Several respondents indicated that they were not sure they would claim the incentive in either 2002 (20%) or 2003(41%).

METHODOLOGY

Questionnaire

The Department of Health provided a draft questionnaire to SESRC. Working together, representatives from SESRC and the Department of Health finalized the questionnaire. The final questionnaire was 8 pages long, including a cover page and a final page for comments. The questionnaire contained a total of 37 questions.

Population and Sample

A list of public water utilities in Washington State was obtained from the Department of Health. The sample consisted of the names of 458 water utilities subject to the public utility tax.

Data Collection Procedures

Mailing Procedures. The Total Design Method (TDM) was used to implement the mailing. A key element of the TDM is the personalization of all mailings to survey respondents and the use of multiple follow-ups, both of which have been shown to increase response rate.

The cover letter, questionnaire and stamped returned envelope were mailed to all utilities in the sample on October 4, 2001. The cover letter announced the purpose of the study and asked respondent to complete the questionnaire and return it to SESRC. Respondents were also given the option of completing the survey on-line if they preferred.

One week later, on October 11, 2001, a postcard reminder was sent to each respondent. The purpose of the postcard was to thank respondents who had already completed the questionnaire. Additionally it served as a prompt to respondents to complete and return the questionnaire. On October 25, 2001, three weeks after the initial questionnaire was sent, a new cover letter, questionnaire, and stamped return envelope was mailed to those utilities who had not yet responded. The cover letter reminded them of the original survey as well as the importance of their participation.

Internet Procedures. Respondents were given the option of completing the questionnaire on line. Respondents were asked to go on-line and enter an ID number and password to access the survey. Passwords were used to insure only utility utilities asked to participate in the study completed the survey.

Telephone Procedures. Between November 8, 2001 and November 9, 2001, SESRC conducted a telephone follow-up with all utilities that had not responded. The primary purpose of the telephone call was to encourage respondents to complete and return a questionnaire. Interviewers gave each business a deadline of November 14, 2001 to return the questionnaire. They also offered to fax a replacement questionnaire.

Data Entry Procedures. All questionnaires returned to SESRC by November 29 2001 were submitted for data entry and verification. A trained SESRC staff member reviewed each questionnaire and coding decisions were made prior to data entry.

All questionnaires for this project were keypunched directly into a computer using a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system. This CATI system displays the questions on a computer monitor and the responses associated with survey questions are then entered. The system is designed to increase the accuracy of the data collection by prohibiting entry of illegitimate ranges of answers for each question. One hundred percent verification of each questionnaire was performed using the same system. The verification process consisted of the double entry of each questionnaire. The CATI program is designed to alert the person entering the data each time his/her entry does not match the original entry of the questionnaire. Any errors in data entry are corrected at this point.

Response Rate Statistics

Table 1 presents the response rate statistics for this study. The response rate is the number of completed questionnaires divided by the total sample size. A total of 458 questionnaires were mailed out. Of these, a total of 324 respondents completed and returned questionnaires. This yielded an overall response rate of 71%.

Table 1. Response Rate Statistics

	Response Categories	Total
(a)	Completed Questionnaires	324
(b)	Questionnaires not returned	112
(c)	Refusals	20
(d)	Return to Sender	2
(e)	**Total Sample**	**458**
	Response Rate (a/e)	71%

RESULTS

Number of Connections

The first question that respondents were asked was "**what is the total number of connections served by your utility**". A total of 94% (304/324) of the respondents answered this question. The average number of connections was 3145 and the median is 636.50. The minimum number of connections given by a respondent was 1 and the maximum number of connected given was 85,000.

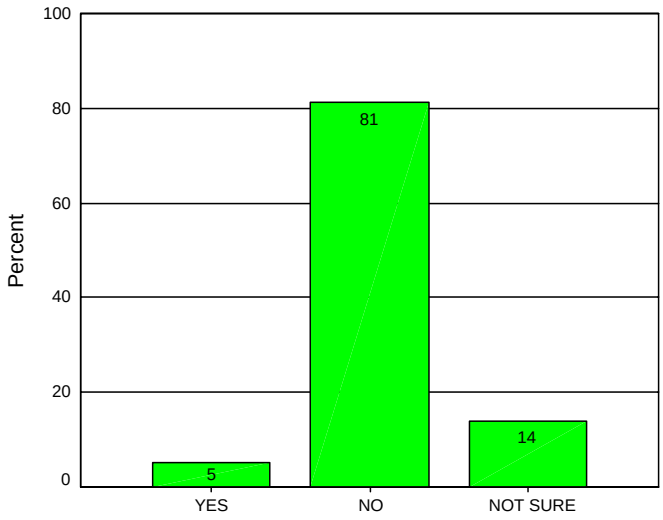
Table 2. Total Number of connections

N	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation
304	636.50	1	85000	3145.81	7747.642

Participating in Tax Incentive Program

Utilities were asked if their utility was "**participating in the conservation tax incentive program.**" A total of 318 respondents answered this question. The majority of the respondents (81%) indicated that their utilities were not participating in the conservation tax incentive program. Only 5% of the respondents indicated that their utilities were participating in the program.

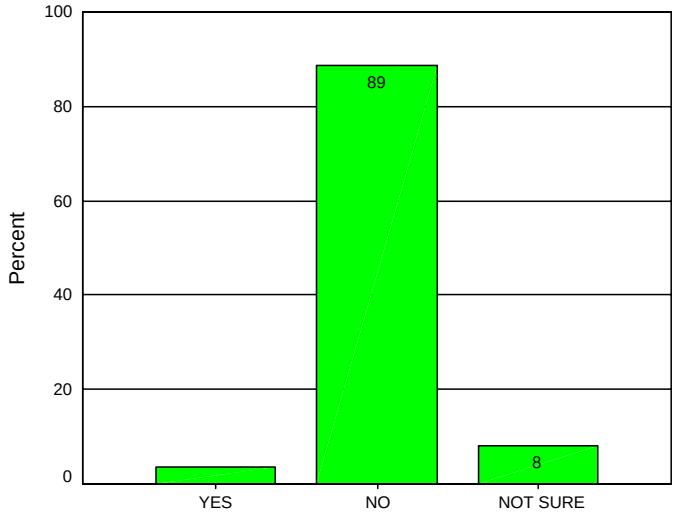
Figure 1: Utility participation in tax incentive program



Tax Deduction Claimed

Respondents were asked if their utility claimed "**a tax deduction this year for using the conservation tax incentive**." A majority of the respondents (89%) indicated that their firm did not claim a tax deduction this year. Only 3% indicated that their utilities claimed a tax deduction (10 respondents). A total of 288 respondents answered this question.

Figure 2: Tax deduction claimed this year

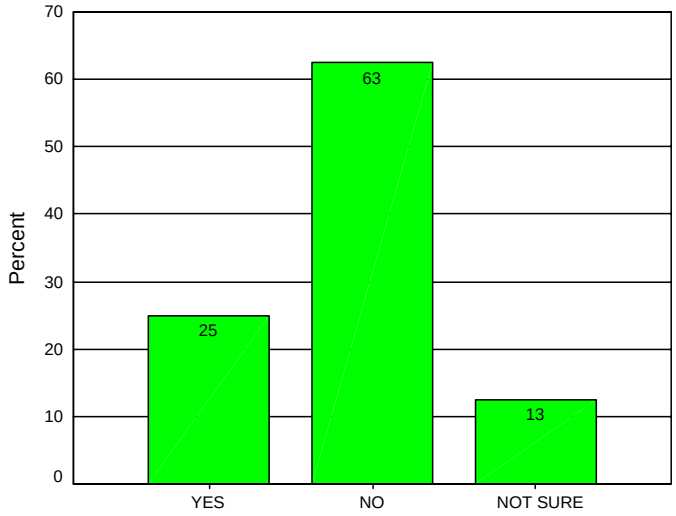


The ten utilities that indicated that they would be claiming the tax deduction this year were than asked for "which conservation measures was the tax deduction claimed." Several of these utilities mentioned education programs (4 utilities) and outreach programs (3 utilities). In addition the utilities mentioned supplying users with items such as showerheads, water kits, calendars for watering, and conservation kits.

Reinvestment of Tax Savings

Utilities that indicated they would be claiming the tax deduction this year were asked if the "**utility reinvested any of its tax savings in conservation**." Over half (63%) indicated that their utilities would not be reinvesting its tax savings in conservation. About 25% indicated that they would be reinvesting their tax savings. And 13% indicated that they were not sure if their firm would reinvest the tax savings. However, only 8 respondents (2%) answered this question.

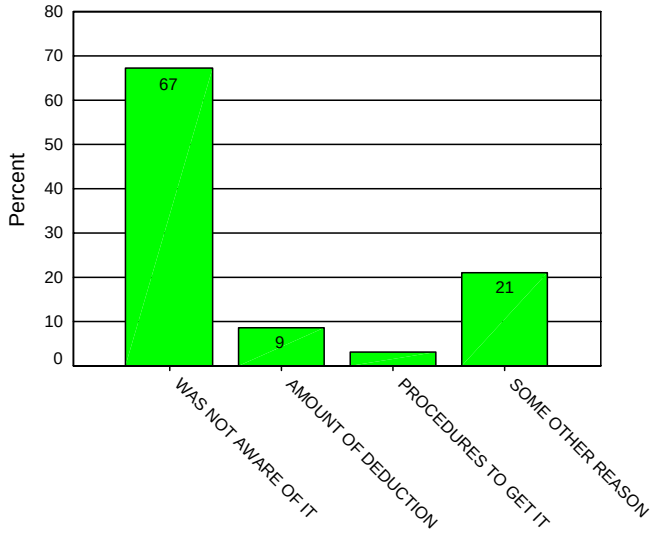
Figure 3: Reinvestment of tax savings



Main Reason Firm Did Not Claim Tax Deduction

Utilities that did not claim the tax deduction were asked what the "**main reason they did not claim the deduction**." A majority of the utilities (67%) who did not claim the tax deduction indicated that they were not aware of the tax deduction. About 9% of the utilities indicated that the amount of the deduction was not large enough and 3% indicated that the procedures to get the tax deduction were too difficult. Twenty-one percent of the utilities indicated that they had some other reason for not claiming the tax deduction. A total of 289 respondents answered this question.

Figure 4: Main reason did not claim tax deducation

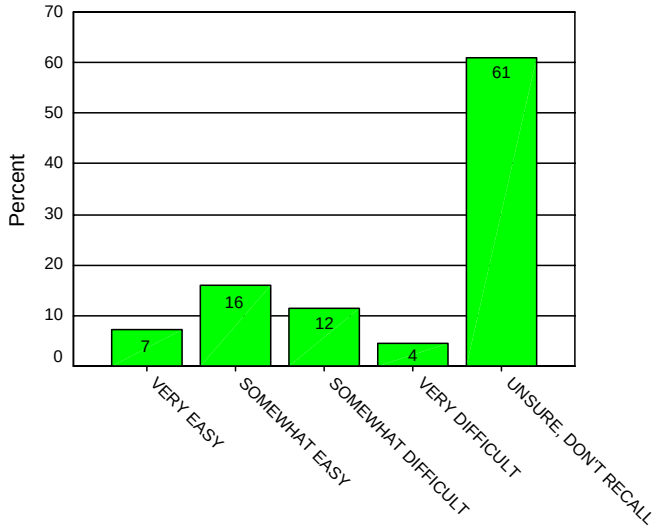


The utilities that indicated there was some other reason they did not claim the tax deduction gave a variety of reasons. Several stated that there were multiple reasons, including the amount of the deduction not being enough (14 respondents) and the procedures were too difficult (13 respondents). In addition, some utilities indicated that they were not aware of the program but were now investigating the tax deduction (12 respondents). Some utilities indicated that the deduction was not part of their conservation plan so they did not plan to claim the deduction this year but would consider it for 2002 (4 respondents). Others indicated that their utilities did not have qualifying expenses. Only a few (3 respondents) indicated that they felt that the tax incentive program was ineffective.

Ability to Understand the Tax Incentive Program

Respondents were asked, "**how easy or difficult would you say it was to figure out the conservation tax incentive program**." A majority of the respondents (61%) indicated that they were not sure or didn't recall. Sixteen percent indicated that it was somewhat easy to figure out and 7% indicated that is was very easy to figure out. However, 12% indicated that is was somewhat difficult and 4% indicated that it was very difficult. A total of 182 respondents answered this question.

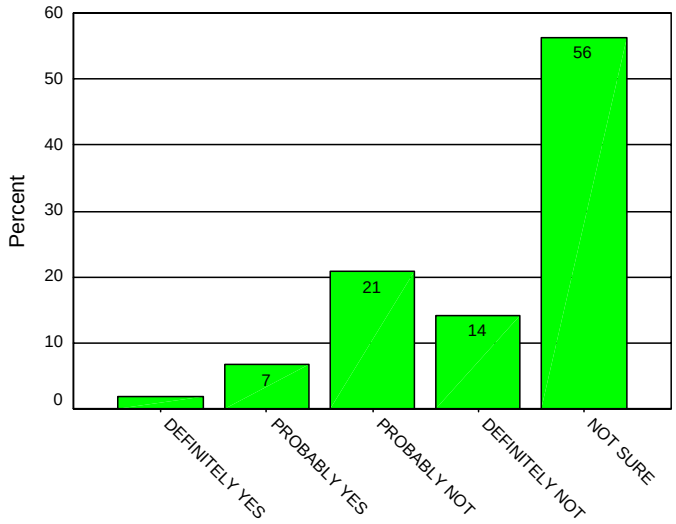
Figure 5: Ability to undersatnd tax incentive program



Incentive Large Enough to Influence Utilities

Respondents were asked if " **the conservation tax incentive was large enough to influence a utility's decisions regarding implementation of conservation measures**." Of the 211 respondents who answered this questions 56% indicated that they were not sure if it would influence them or not. Thirty-five percent of the respondent indicated that the incentive was not large enough to influence their decisions. While 7% indicated that it probably would influence their decision and 2% indicated that it definitely would affect their decisions.

Figure 6: Incentive large enough to influence utilties

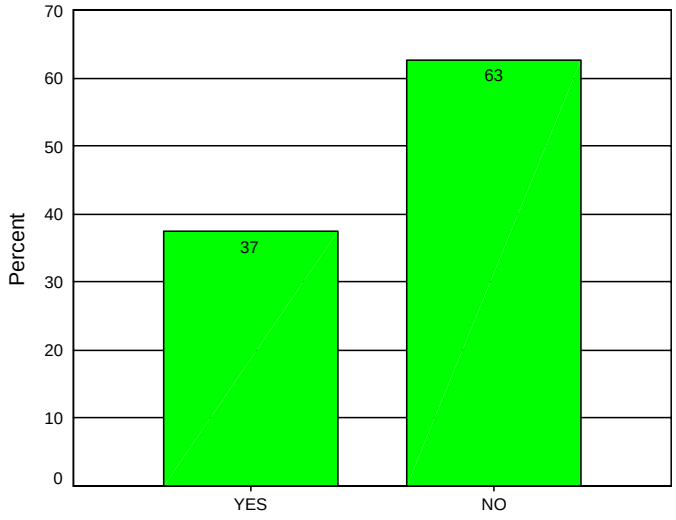


Anything to Change in Program

Respondents were asked if "**there was anything about the program that they would like to change**." Of the 123 respondents who answered this question 63% indicated that there were no changes that they would like to change. However, 37% (46 respondents) did indicate that there were some changes that they would like to see.

Some of the changes that the respondent would like to see are expanded scopes of eligible measures (eight respondents), increased levels of incentives (7 respondents), advertising the availability of the program (6 respondents), and more information about the program (6 respondents).

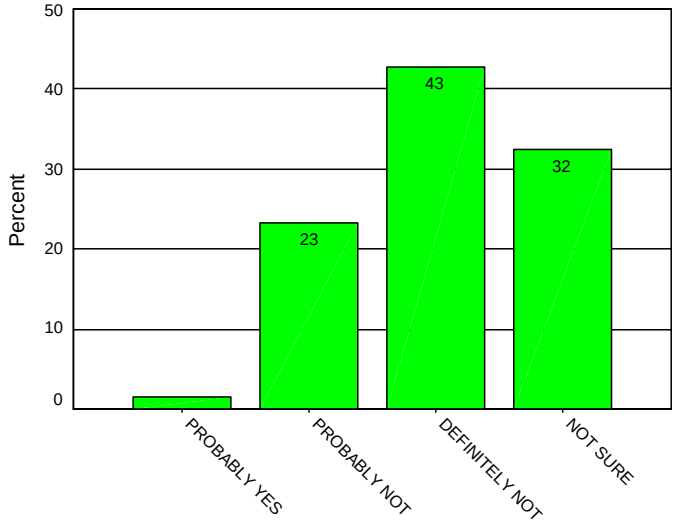
Figure 7: Would utilities like to see changes in the program



Effect of Tax Incentive on Conservation Spending

Respondents were ask if the "**conservation tax incentive would cause their utility to spend more money on conservation**." A total of 185 respondents answered this question. Forty-three percent indicated that the incentive definitely would not cause the utilities to spend more money and 23% indicated that the incentive probably would not affect their spending. Only 2% said that the tax incentive probably would influence their spending. Thirty-two percent were not sure how the tax incentive would affect their spending.

Figure 8: Did program increase spending on conservation



Estimated Spending Increase Due to Incentive

Respondents who answered that there utility spent more on conservation due to the conservation tax where then asked to "**estimate how much more money they spent this year on conservation**." The average amount given was $928.57 and the median is zero. The minimum amount of given was zero and a maximum amount of $6000. However, only 7 respondents (2%) answered this question.

Table 3. Estimate of money spent on conservation due to incentive

N	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
7	0	0	6000	928.57	2244.04

Percentage Increase from Pervious Year

Respondents were then asked "**how much of a percentage increase was this from the previous year**." The average amount given was 29.17% and the median is zero. The minimum amount given was 0% and a maximum amount of 100%. However, only 6 respondents (2%) answered this question.

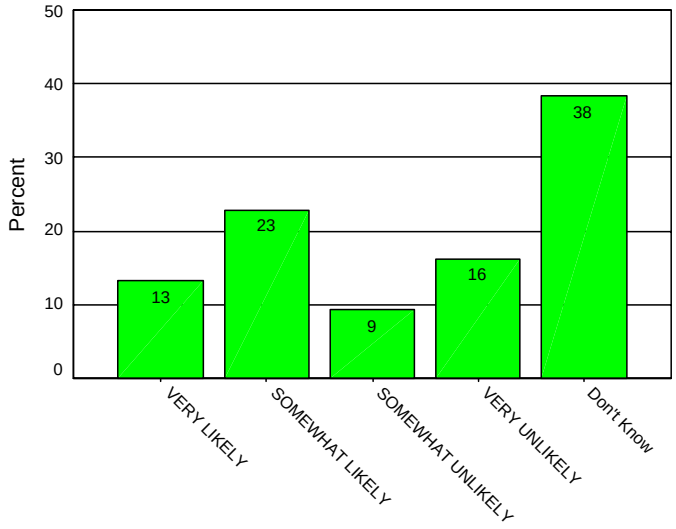
Table 4. Percentage increase from the previous year

N	Median	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
6	0	0	100	29.17	45.87

Likelihood Conservation Program Enhanced if Incentive Targeted B&O Tax

Respondents were asked "**how likely that their utility would enhance its conservation program if tax incentives were targeted at the B&O Tax**." Of the 258 respondents who answered this question 13% indicated that they were very likely to enhance their programs and 23% were somewhat likely. Nine percent were somewhat unlikely to do any enhancements and 16% were very unlikely. Thirty-eight percent indicated they didn't know.

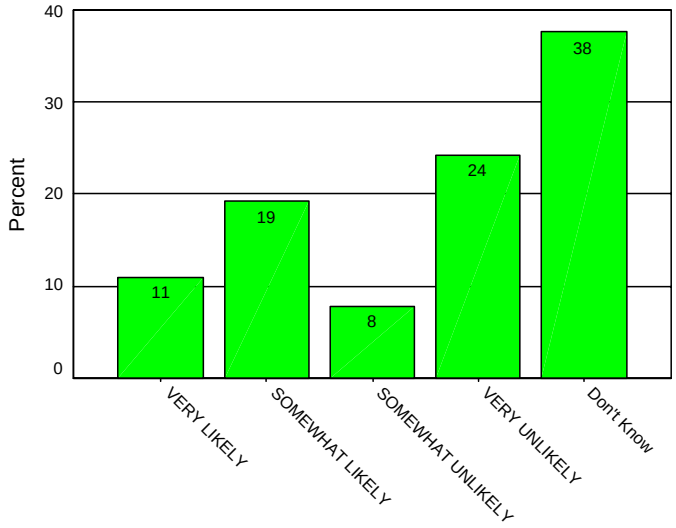
Figure 9: Enhance programs if targeted at B&O Tax



Likelihood Conservation Program Enhanced if Incentive Targeted State Sales Tax

Respondents were asked "**how likely that their utility would enhance its conservation program if tax incentives were targeted at the State Sales Tax**." Of the 255 respondents who answered this question 11% indicated that they were very likely to enhance their programs and 19% were somewhat likely. Eight percent were somewhat unlikely to do any enhancements and 24% were very unlikely. Thirty-eight percent indicated they didn't know.

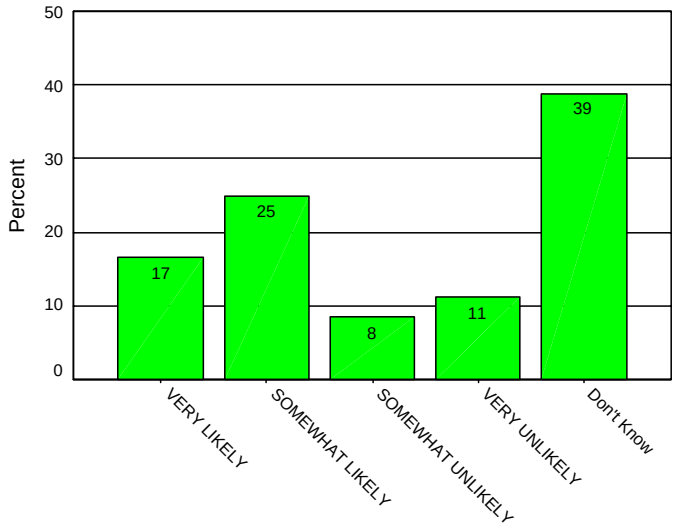
Figure 10: Enhance programs if targeted at State Sales Tax



Likelihood Conservation Program Enhanced if Incentive Targeted Public Utility Tax

Respondents were asked "**how likely that their utility would enhance its conservation program if tax incentives were targeted at the Public Utility Tax**." Of the 260 respondents who answered this question 17% indicated that they were very likely to enhance their programs and 25% were somewhat likely. Eight percent were somewhat unlikely to do any enhancements and 11% were very unlikely. Thirty-nine percent indicated they didn't know.

Figure 11: Enhance programs if targeted at Public Utility Tax

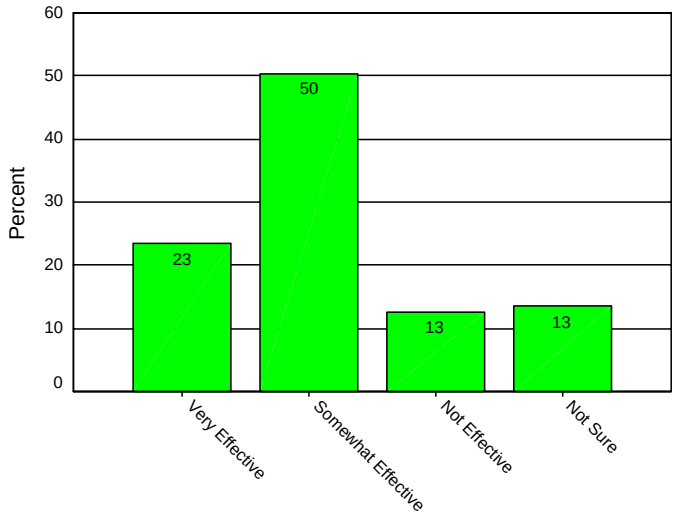


Financial Incentives Effectiveness in Increasing Use of Conservation Measures

Promoting Customer Education

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would be in increasing the promotion of customer education**". Of the 252 respondents who answered this question, 23% thought it would be very effective and 50% thought it would be somewhat effective. Thirteen percent thought it would not be effective and 13% were not sure.

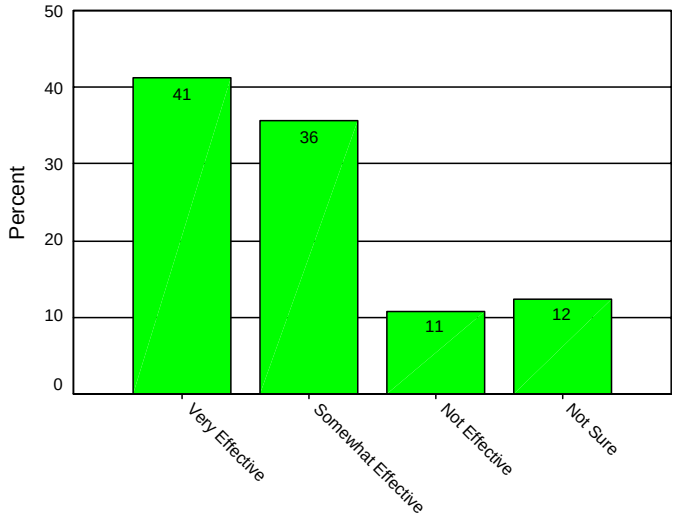
Figure 12: Incentives to promote customer education



Assisting with Leak Detection and Repair

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would be in assisting with leak detection and repair**." Of the 250 respondents who answered this question, 41% thought it would be very effective and 36% thought it would be somewhat effective. Only 11% percent thought it would not be effective and 12% were not sure.

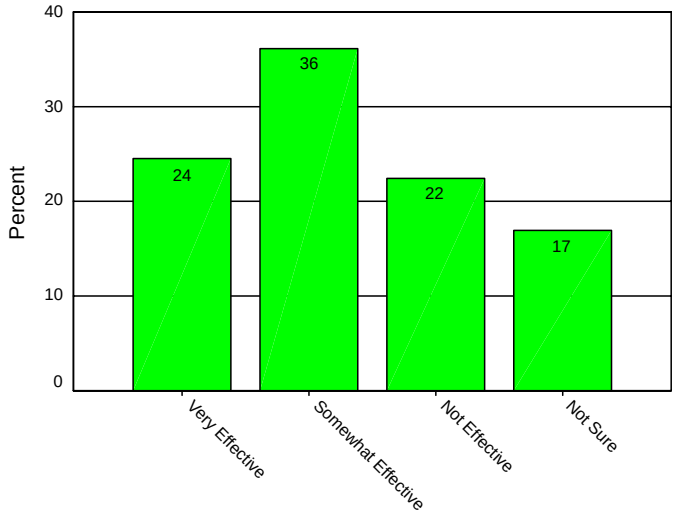
Figure 13: Incentives to assist leak detection/repair



Assisting with Source Meter Installation, Repair and Calibration

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would be in assisting with source meter installation, repair and calibration**." Of the 249 respondents who answered this question, 24% thought it would be very effective and 36% thought it would be somewhat effective. Twenty-two percent thought it would not be effective and 17% were not sure.

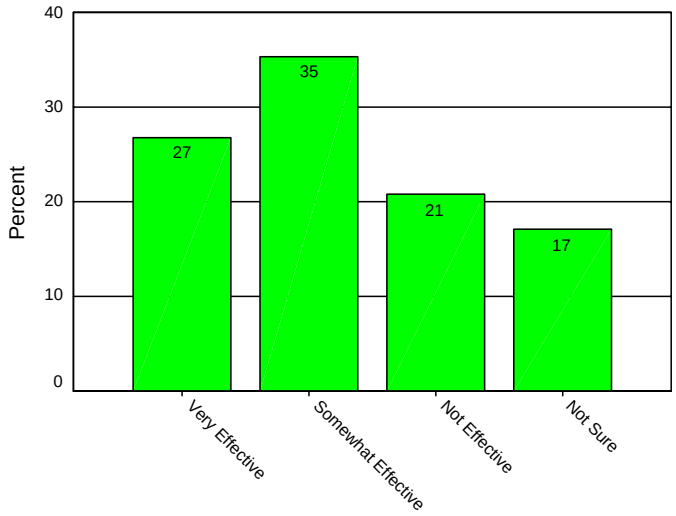
Figure 14: Incentives to assist with source meters



Assisting with Service Meter Installation, Repair and Calibration

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would be in assisting with service meter installation, repair and calibration**." Of the 246 respondents who answered this question, 27% thought it would be very effective and 35% thought it would be somewhat effective. Twenty-one percent thought it would not be effective and 17% were not sure.

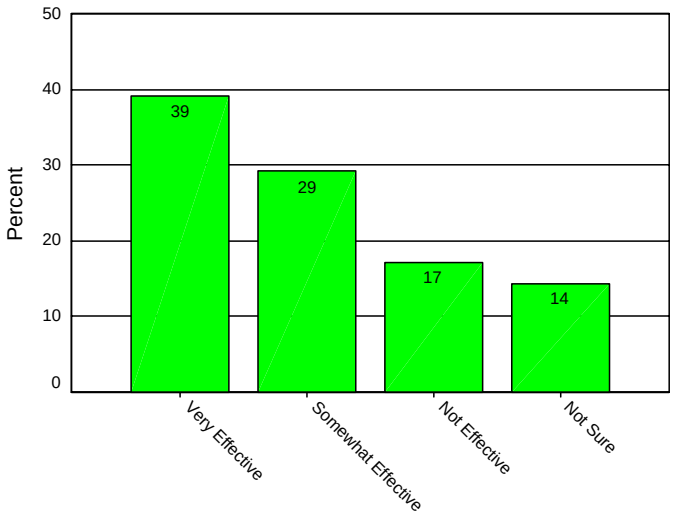
Figure 15: Incentives to assist with service meters



Assisting with Repair of Water Mains

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would be in assisting with repairs of water mains**." Of the 250 respondents who answered this question, 39% thought it would be very effective and 29% thought it would be somewhat effective. Seventeen percent thought it would not be effective and 14% were not sure.

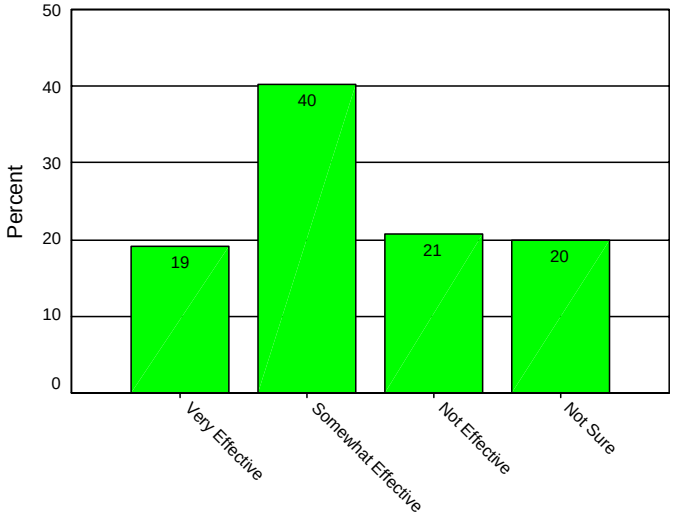
Figure 16: Incentives to assist reparis of water mains



Assisting with Household Fixture Retrofitting

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would be in assisting with household fixture retrofitting**." Of the 251 respondents who answered this question, 19% thought it would be very effective and 40% thought it would be somewhat effective. Twenty-one percent thought it would not be effective and 20% were not sure.

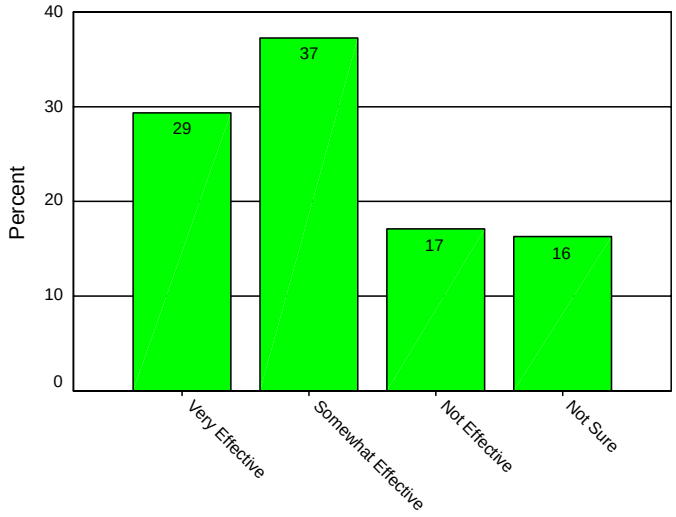
Figure 17: Incentives to assist household fixture retrofitting



Assisting with Reducing Outdoor Water Use by Customers

Respondents were asked "**how effective financial incentives would be in assisting with reducing outdoor water use by customers**." Of the 252 respondents who answered this question, 29% thought it would be very effective and 37% thought it would be somewhat effective. Seventeen percent thought it would not be effective and 16% were not sure.

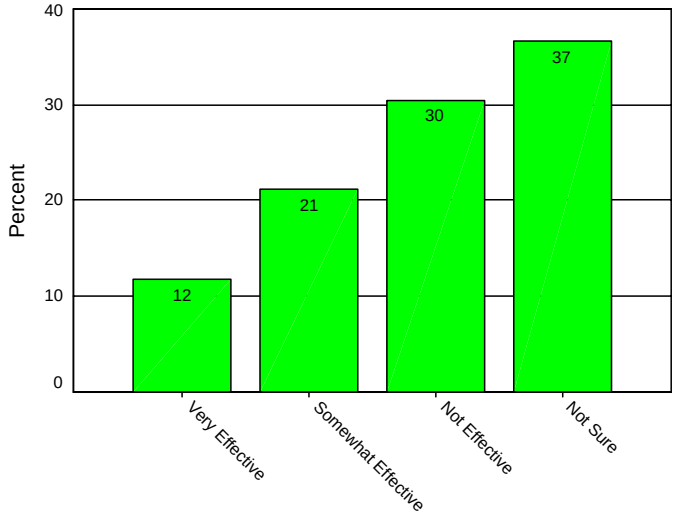
Figure 18: Incentives to assist reducing outdoor water use



Assisting with Industrial Customer Process Audits

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would increase the use of assisting industrial customer process audits**." Of the 246 respondents who answered this question, 12% thought it would be very effective and 21% thought it would be somewhat effective. Thirty percent thought it would not be effective and 37% were not sure.

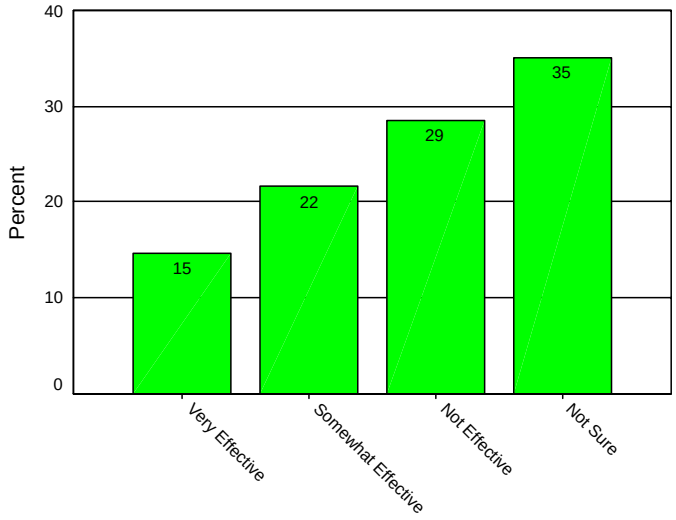
Figure 19: Incentives to assist ind customer process audits



Assisting with Industrial Customer Water Efficiency Measures

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would increase the use of assisting industrial customer water efficiency measures**." Of the 245 respondents who answered this question, 15% thought it would be very effective and 22% thought it would be somewhat effective. Twenty-nine percent thought it would not be effective and 35% were not sure.

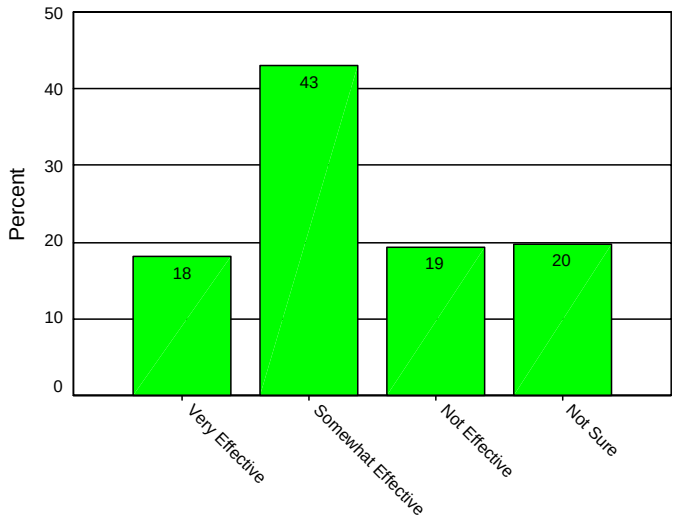
Figure 20: Incentives to assist ind customer water efficiency



Assisting with Costs of Conservation Planning

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would assist with costs of conservation planning**." Of the 249 respondents who answered this question, 18% thought it would be very effective and 43% thought it would be somewhat effective. Nineteen percent thought it would not be effective and 20% were not sure.

Figure 21: Incentives to assist conservation planning costs



Replace Lost Revenue From Conservation

Respondents were asked, "**how effective financial incentives would assist with replacing lost revenue from conservation**." Of the 251 respondents who answered this question, 38% thought it would be very effective and 27% thought it would be somewhat effective. Fifteen percent thought it would not be effective and 20% were not sure.

Figure 22: Incentives to replace lost revenue from conservation

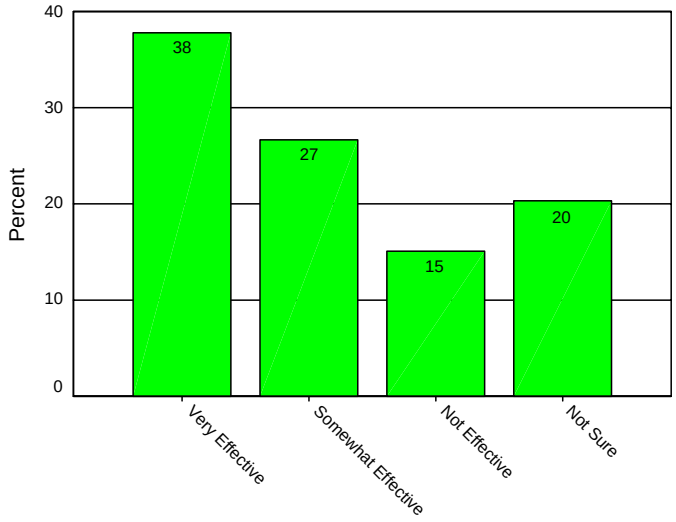


Table 5. Summary of multiple responses for questions Q17A through Q17K

	Very Effective		Somewhat Effective		Not Effective		Not Sure	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
A. Promote customer service	59	33.7	127	60.5	32	20.9	34	27.4
B. Leak Detection	103	58.9	89	42.4	27	17.6	31	25.0
C. Source Meters	61	34.9	90	42.9	56	36.6	42	33.9
D. Service Meters	66	37.7	87	41.4	51	33.3	42	33.9
E. Repair Water Mains	98	56.0	73	34.8	43	28.1	36	29.0
F. Household Fixture Retrofitting	48	27.4	101	48.1	52	34.0	50	40.3
G. Reduce Outdoor Water Use	74	42.3	94	44.8	43	28.1	41	33.1
H. Ind. Customer Process Audits	29	16.6	52	24.8	75	49.0	90	72.6
I. Ind. Customer Water Efficiency	36	20.6	53	25.2	70	45.8	86	69.4
J. Costs of Conservation Planning	45	25.7	107	51.0	48	31.4	49	39.5
K. Replace Lost Revenue	95	54.3	67	31.9	38	24.8	51	41.1
Number of Valid Cases	*175*		*210*		*153*		*124*	

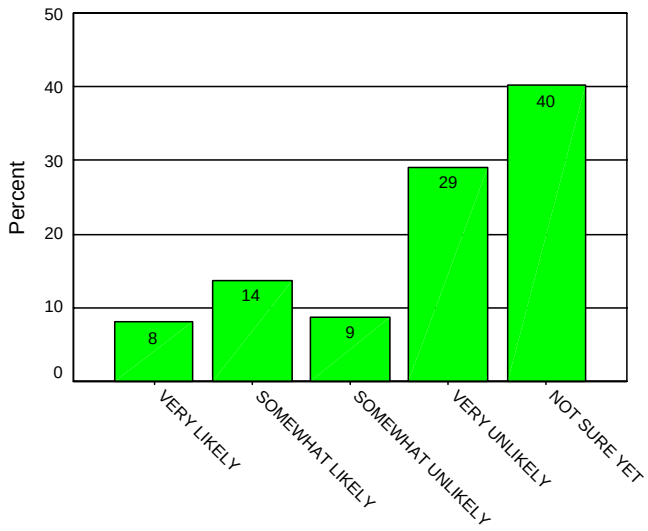
Respondents felt that providing financial incentives to increase the use of providing assists with leak detection/repair (B), repair of water mains (E), and replacing lost revenue from conservation would be the most effective (K).

A large percentage of the respondents felt that providing financial assistance to increase the use of assisting with industrial customer process audits (H) and assists with industrial customer water efficiency measures (I) would not be effective. However, a large percentage of respondents were unsure if financial assistance would be effective in increasing the use of these measures.

Likelihood Utility will Claim Tax Deduction in 2002

Respondents were asked, "**how likely their utility would claim the tax deduction in 2002**." Of the 261 respondents who answered this question, 8% were very likely to claim the tax deduction and 14% were somewhat likely. Nine percent were somewhat unlikely and 29% were very unlikely. Forty percent were not sure if they would be taking the tax deduction.

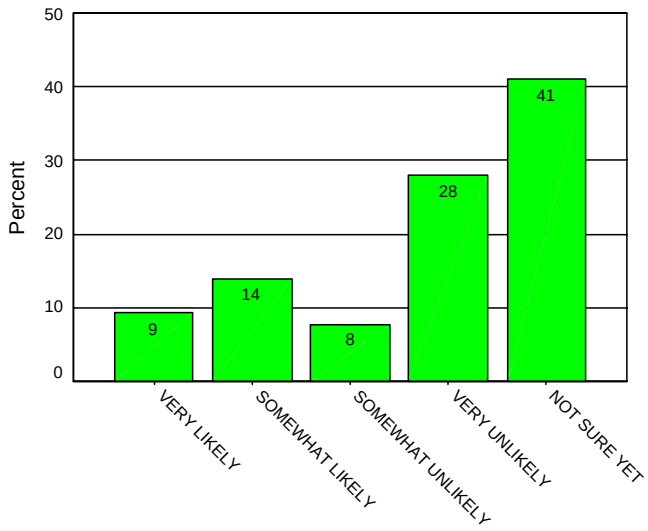
Figure 23: How likely utility will claim deduction in 2002



Likelihood Utility will Claim Tax Deduction in 2003

Respondents were asked, "**how likely their utility would claim the tax deduction in 2003**." Of the 258 respondents who answered this question, 9% were very likely to claim the tax deduction and 14% were somewhat likely. Eight percent were somewhat unlikely and 28% were very unlikely. Forty-one percent were not sure if they would be taking the tax deduction.

Figure 24: How likely utility will claim deduction in 2003

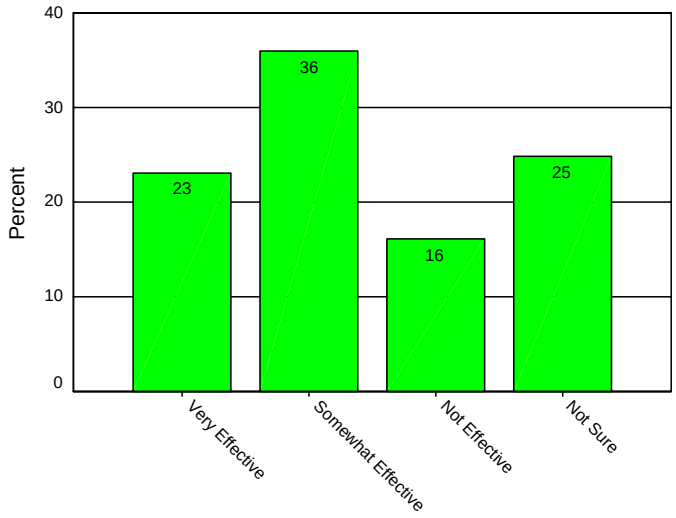


Financial Incentive Effectiveness

Cost Sharing

Respondents were asked, "**how effective cost sharing would be for their utility**." At total of 242 respondents answered this question. Twenty-three percent felt that cost sharing would be very effective and 36% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 16% felt cost sharing would not be effective. Twenty-five percent were not sure how effective cost sharing would be.

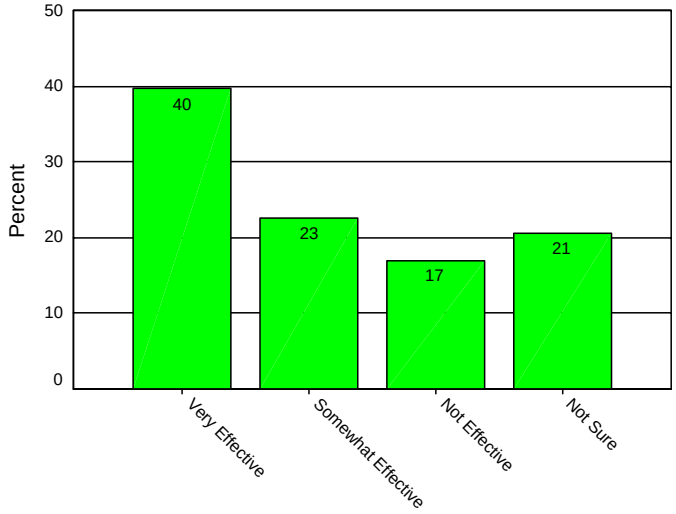
Figure 25: Cost sharing effectiveness



Interest Free Loans

Respondents were asked, "**how effective interest free loans would be for their utility**." At total of 247 respondents answered this question. Forty percent felt that interest free loans would be very effective and 23% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 17% felt interest free loans would not be effective. Twenty-one percent were not sure how effective interest free loans would be.

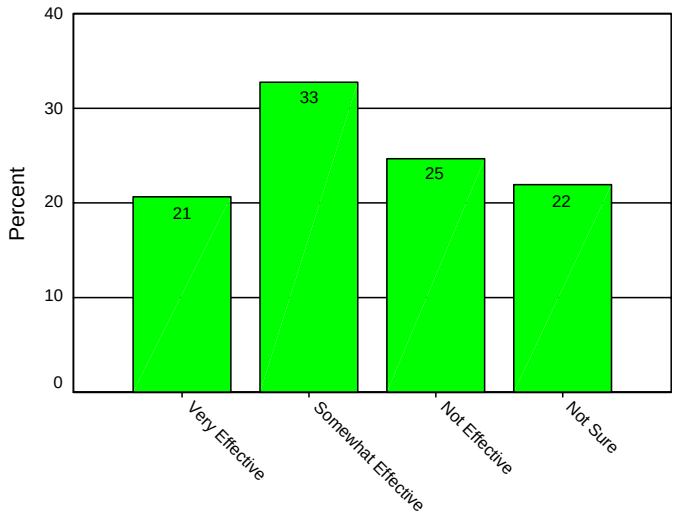
Figure 26: Interest free loan effectiveness



Low Interest Loans

Respondents were asked, "**how effective low interest loans would be for their utility**." At total of 247 respondents answered this question. Twenty-one percent felt that low interest loans would be very effective and 33% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 25% felt low interest loans would not be effective. Twenty-two percent were not sure how effective low interest loans would be.

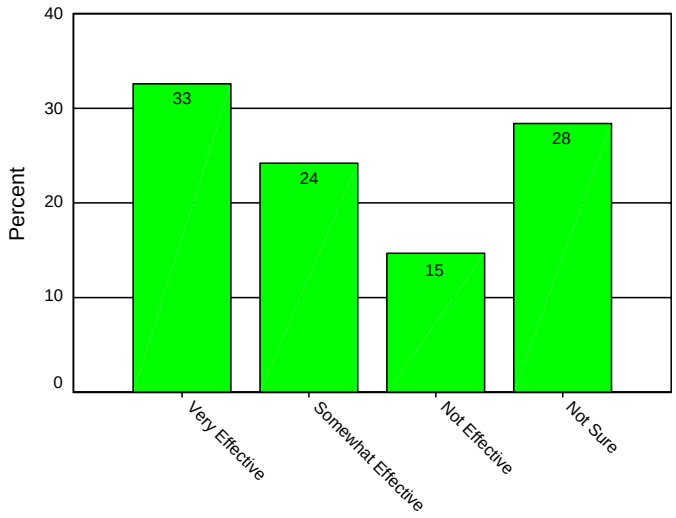
Figure 27: Low interest loan effectiveness



Direct Payments

Respondents were asked, "**how effective direct payments would be for their utility**." At total of 239 respondents answered this question. Thirty-three percent felt direct payments would be very effective and 24% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 15% felt direct payments would not be effective. Twenty-eight percent were not sure how effective direct payments would be.

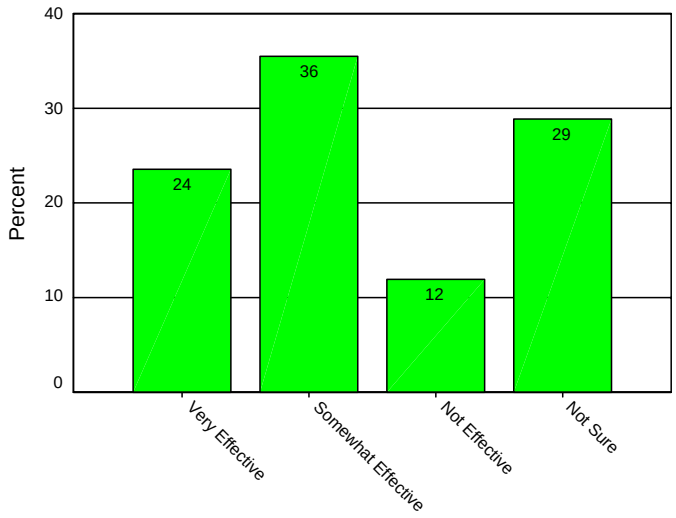
Figure 28: Direct payments effectiveness



Tax Credits

Respondents were asked, "**how effective tax credits would be for their utility**". At total of 242 respondents answered this question. Twenty-four percent felt tax credits would be very effective and 36% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 12% felt tax credits would not be effective. Twenty-nine percent were not sure how effective tax credits would be.

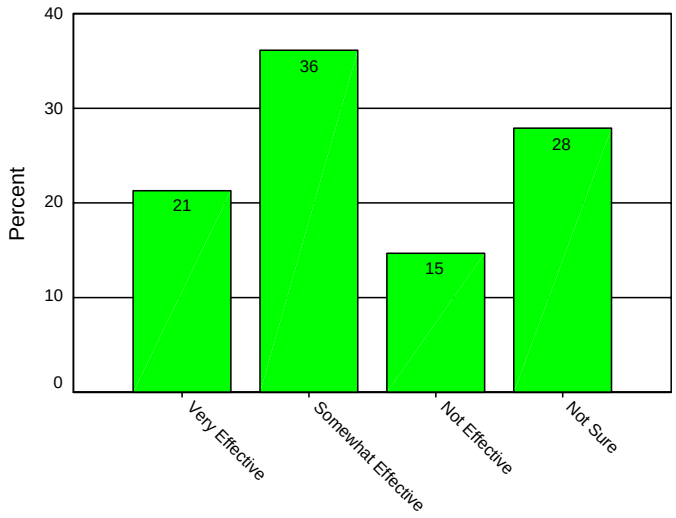
Figure 29: Tax credits effectiveness



Tax Deductions

Respondents were asked, "**how effective tax deductions would be for their utility**." At total of 244 respondents answered this question. Twenty-one percent felt tax deductions would be very effective and 36% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 15% felt tax deductions would not be effective. Twenty-eight percent were not sure how effective tax deductions would be.

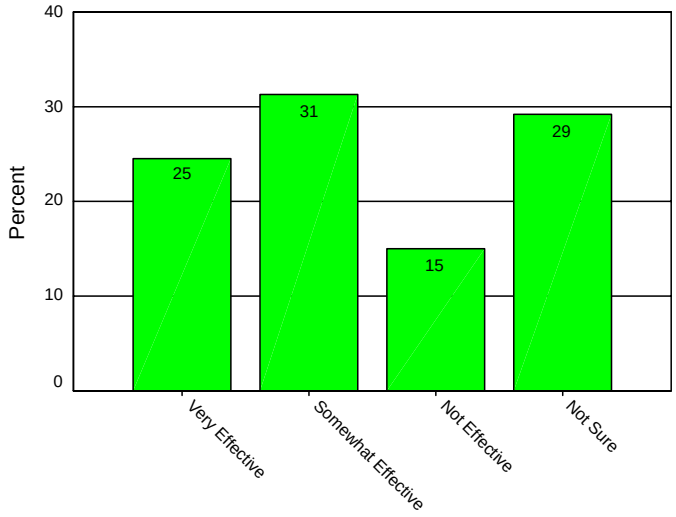
Figure 30: Tax deductions effectiveness



Tax Exemptions

Respondents were asked, "**how effective tax exemptions would be for their utility**." At total of 240 respondents answered this question. Twenty-five percent felt tax exemptions would be very effective and 31% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 15% felt tax exemptions would not be effective. Twenty-nine percent were not sure how effective tax exemptions would be.

Figure 31: Tax exemptions effectiveness



Expansion of Existing Programs

Respondents were asked, "**how effective expansion of existing programs would be for their utility**." At total of 243 respondents answered this question. Eighteen percent felt expansion of existing programs would be very effective and 37% felt that it would be somewhat effective. Only 16% felt expansion of existing programs would not be effective. Twenty-nine percent were not sure how effective expansion of existing programs would be.

Figure 32: Effectiveness of expanding exisitng programs

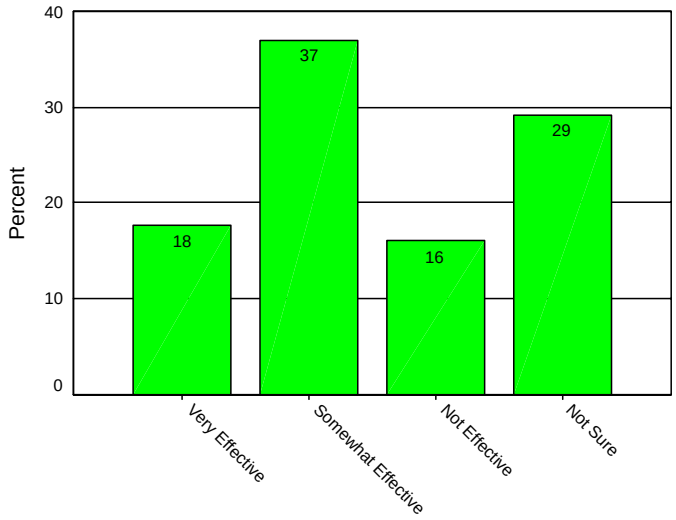


Table 6. Summary of multiple responses for questions Q20A through Q20h

	Very Effective		Somewhat Effective		Not Effective		Not Sure	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
A. Cost Sharing	56	37.6	87	48.9	39	35.5	60	56.6
B. Interest Free Loans	98	65.8	56	31.5	42	38.2	51	48.1
C. Low Interest Loans	51	34.2	81	45.5	61	55.5	54	50.9
D. Direct Payments	78	52.3	58	32.6	35	31.8	68	64.2
E. Tax Credits	57	38.3	86	48.3	29	26.4	70	66.0
F. Tax Deductions	52	34.9	88	49.4	36	32.7	68	64.2
G. Tax Exemptions	59	39.6	75	42.1	36	32.7	70	66.0
H. Expansions of Existing Programs	43	28.9	90	50.6	39	35.5	71	67.0
Number of Valid Cases	*149*		*178*		*110*		*106*	

Respondents indicated that interest free loans (B) and direct payments (D) were the most effective financial incentives.

Low interest loans (C) were considered not effective financial incentives.

Respondents were not sure how effective expanding the existing program (H), tax exemptions (G) and tax credits (E) would be for their utility.

NON-RESPONSE ERROR

Non-response error characterizes a study if two conditions are met: (1) a significant number of those who are surveyed do not respond, and (2) those non-responders differ from the respondents on dimensions that are important to the study. One way to gauge the extent as well as direction of non-response error is to compare known characteristics of the population with those of the survey respondents.

Table 7 compares the distribution of several variables between the overall sample and final sample. The percentages on the counties, region, residential population and total number of connections are closely parallel and within the margin of error for the survey. To this extent the non-response error appears to be small and does not appear to compromise the data.

Table 7. Select Sample and Respondent Variables

VARIABLE	FULL SAMPLE		RESPONDENTS	
Description	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*
COUNTY		458		319*
Adams	4	.87%	3	.94%
Asotin	2	.44%	2	.63%
Benton	8	1.75%	7	2.19%
Chelan	7	1.53%	5	1.57%
Clallam	14	3.06%	10	3.13%
Clark	7	1.53%	5	1.57%
Columbia	1	.22%	1	.31%
Cowlitz	8	1.75%	4	1.25%
Douglas	6	1.31%	4	1.25%
Ferry	2	.44%	2	.63%
Franklin	5	1.10%	3	.94%
Garfield	1	.22%	1	.31%
Grant	16	3.49%	11	2.40%
Grays Harbor	11	2.4%	9	2.82%
Island	25	5.46%	15	4.7%
Jefferson	7	1.53%	3	9.4%
King	50	10.92%	34	10.65%
Kitsap	17	3.71%	11	3.45%
Kittitas	8	1.75%	8	2.5%
Klickitat	4	.87%	4	1.25%
Lewis	14	3.06%	11	3.45%
Lincoln	10	2.18%	6	1.88%
Mason	8	1.75%	3	.94%
Okanogan	13	2.84%	10	3.13%
Pacific	7	1.53%	4	1.25%
Pend Oreille	3	.66%	2	.63%
COUNTY	*Number*	*Percent*	*Number*	*Percent*

Pierce	41	8.95%	25	7.84%
San Juan	6	1.31%	4	1.25%
Skagit	9	1.97%	9	2.82%
Skamania	2	.44%	2	.63%
Snohomish	34	7.42%	24	7.52%
Spokane	26	5.68%	17	5.33%
Stevens	7	1.53%	5	1.57%
Thurston	16	3.49%	12	3.76%
Wahkiakum	1	.22%	1	.31%
Walla Walla	4	.87%	1	.31%
Whatcom	25	5.46%	21	.66%
Whitman	15	3.28%	9	2.82%
Yakima	14	3.06%	11	3.45%
REGION	458		319	
Northwest	190	42%	132	41%
Southwest	112	25%	75	24%
Eastern	156	34%	112	35%
Residential Population	458		319	
0-460	115	25%	79	25%
461-1375	114	25%	80	25%
1376-4645	115	25%	77	24%
4645-595430	114	25%	83	26%
Total Connection	458		319	
0-210	114	25%	73	23%
211-570	115	25%	83	26%
571-1732	115	25%	80	25%
1733-176513	114	25%	83	26%

** 319 cases are used for comparison. There are 324 completed interviews however 5 questionnaires were returned without id numbers attached. Thus these cases could not be included in the comparison*